



Director of
Central
Intelligence

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National Intelligence Daily

Tuesday
18 January 1983

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: MAR 2004

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CPAS NID 83-015JX

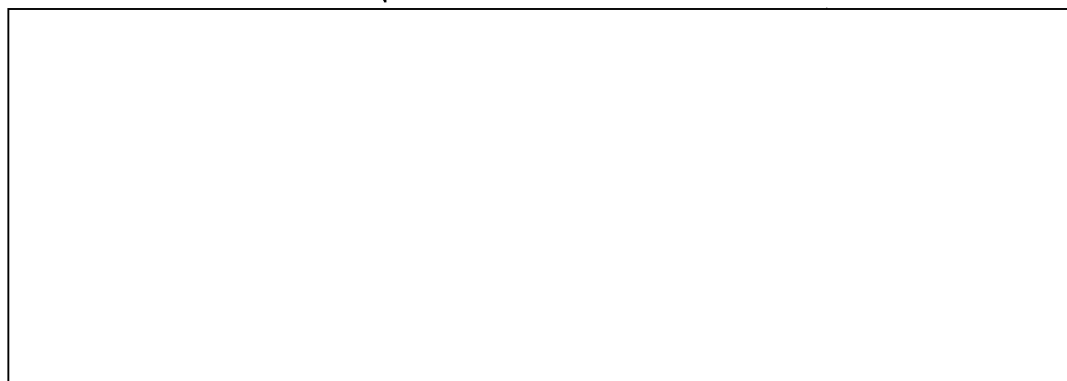
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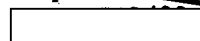
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SYRIA-IRAN-LIBYA: Foreign Ministers' Meeting

The Foreign Ministers of Syria, Iran, and Libya will meet in Damascus [redacted]

[redacted] Iran is seeking to ensure Syrian support in its conflict with Iraq, while the Libyans hope to revive the hardline Arab Steadfastness Front. [redacted]

Comment: The Foreign Ministers are unlikely to accomplish much because of the differing objectives of the three countries and the chronic tensions in their relations. Damascus probably will use the talks primarily to restate its hardline position on the Israel-Lebanon negotiations and to reassert a claim to leadership of the radical states. Iran almost certainly is concerned that Syria might accede to pressure from moderate Arabs to reach an accommodation with Iraq and reopen the Syrian-Iraqi pipeline. Probable Libyan efforts to win support for convening a summit meeting of the Steadfastness Front also are likely to founder, given Syria's disillusionment with the grouping and the rift between President Assad and PLO leader Arafat. [redacted] [redacted]

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